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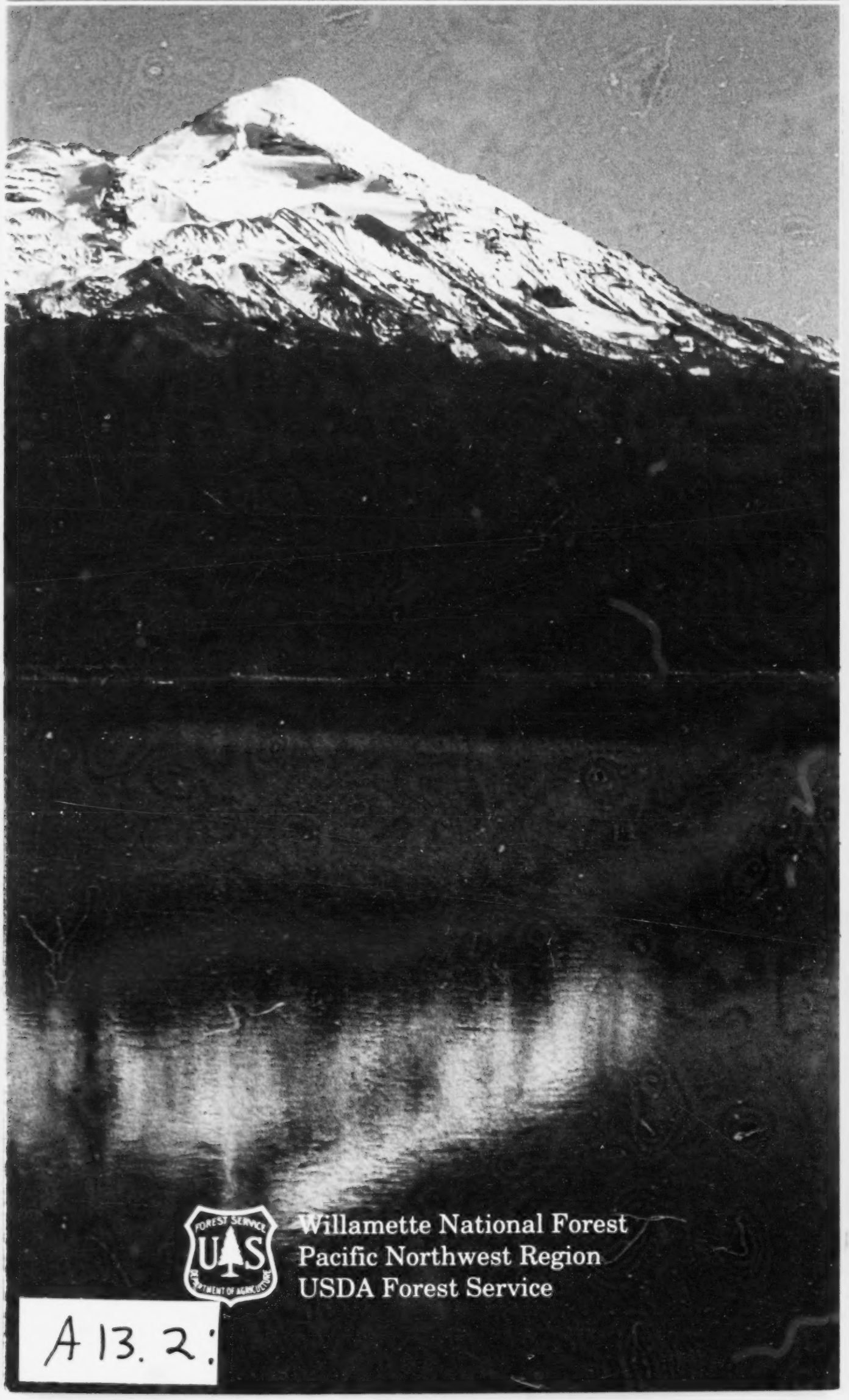
Explore

the WILLAMETTE NATIONAL FOREST



Willamette National Forest
Pacific Northwest Region
USDA Forest Service

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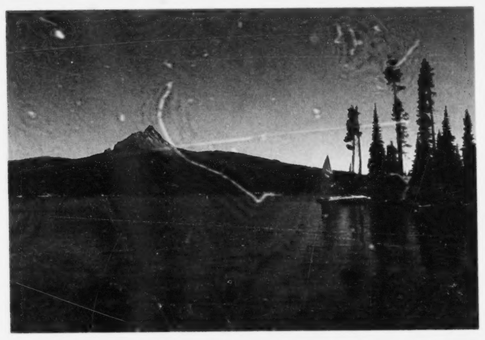
Welcome . . . to the Willamette National Forest!

East of Eugene, the Willamette National Forest stretches for 110 miles (177 km) along the western slopes of the Cascades. The Forest extends from the Mt. Jefferson area east of Salem to the Calapooya Mountains northeast of Roseburg. The Willamette National Forest is 1.6 million acres (647,520 hectares) or about the size of the state of New Jersey. Access to the Forest is provided by four major highways, with the nearest entry point just 20 miles (32.18 km) from Eugene off Highway 58.

Each year thousands of visitors come to the Willamette National Forest to camp, hike, boat, swim, hunt, fish, ski, and snowmobile.

There are over 80 campgrounds and picnic sites on the Forest. Nearly all campgrounds have water and vault or flush toilets. Depending upon the facilities offered, some campgrounds have a user fee. Most sites are on a first-come, first-served basis.

There are 1,400 miles (2,253 km) of trails on the Willamette National Forest. Several of these trails are at lower elevations and easy to access for year-round hiking pleasure. Three very scenic low-elevation trails—the McKenzie River, Fall Creek, and South Breitenbush Gorge Trails—have been designated as National Recreation Trails. The Fall Creek and McKenzie River Trails are within 50 miles (80 km) of Eugene (with bus service available from Eugene to McKenzie Bridge). The South Breitenbush Gorge Trail is located 60 miles (97 km) east of Salem.



Big Lake Campground - lies nestled beneath the towering spire of Mt. Washington, just off Hwy. 20 at the summit of Santiam Pass.

The Willamette has eight Wilderness areas totaling 380,805 acres (154,112 hectares). These areas, the majority of which encompass seven major mountain peaks in the Cascades, are popular with hikers, backpackers, and mountain climbers.

Winter sports are also popular. There are two developed ski areas on the Willamette National Forest, Hoodoo and Willamette Pass, and many Forest roads and trails lend themselves to cross-country skiing. Snowmobiling is popular on Waldo Lake Road and in the Big Lake area near Santiam Pass.

The Willamette National Forest is also home to over 300 species of animals. Some of the more common animals include mule and blacktailed deer, Roosevelt elk, black bear, cougar, grouse, and waterfowl. Many kinds of trout are found in the Forest's lakes and streams including brook, rainbow, brown, cutthroat, and bull trout. The Forest is open to hunting and fishing in regular seasons. Regulations and licensing are established by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Rainfall on the Willamette National Forest varies from 40 to more than 150 inches (102 to 381 cm) a year, much of it as snow which blankets the higher Cascades. The rain and melting snow furnish water for over one-half million Willamette Valley residents. Six major dam facilities on the Forest provide flood control, irrigation, and hydro-electric power to communities in the Willamette Valley.

The Willamette National Forest is the top timber producer among the 156 National Forests in the United States. Twenty-five percent of the revenue generated by timber harvest is returned to six Oregon Counties for support of public schools and roads.

I hope that you will enjoy your visit to the Willamette National Forest. My staff will be pleased to answer your questions and will assist you in any way they can. Please feel free to contact any one of our offices.

Mike Kerrick

MICHAEL A. KERRICK
Forest Supervisor

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687-6521

Detroit Ranger Station
HC60 Box 320
Mill City, OR 97360
854-3366

Sweet Home Ranger Station
3225 Highway 20
Sweet Home, OR 97386
367-5168

Blue River Ranger Station
Blue River, OR 97413
822-3317

McKenzie Ranger Station
McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413
822-3381

Lowell Ranger Station
Lowell, OR 97452
937-2129

Oakridge Ranger Station
46375 Hwy. 58
Westfir, OR 97492
782-2291

Rigdon Ranger Station
49098 Salmon Creek Road
Oakridge, OR 97463
782-2283

Or:

USDA, Forest Service
319 SW Pine
P.O. Box 3623
Portland, OR 97208
503-326-2877

USDA, Forest Service
P.O. Box 96090
Washington, DC 20090-6090
202-447-3957

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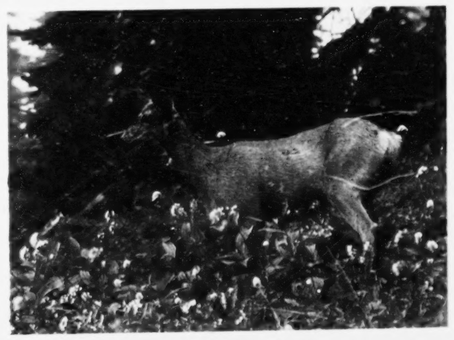
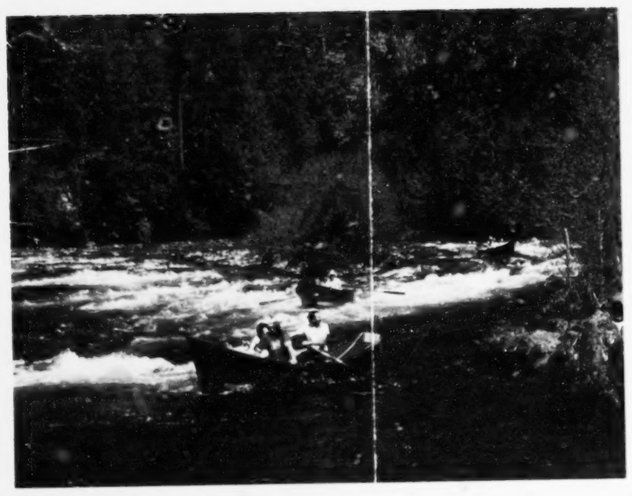


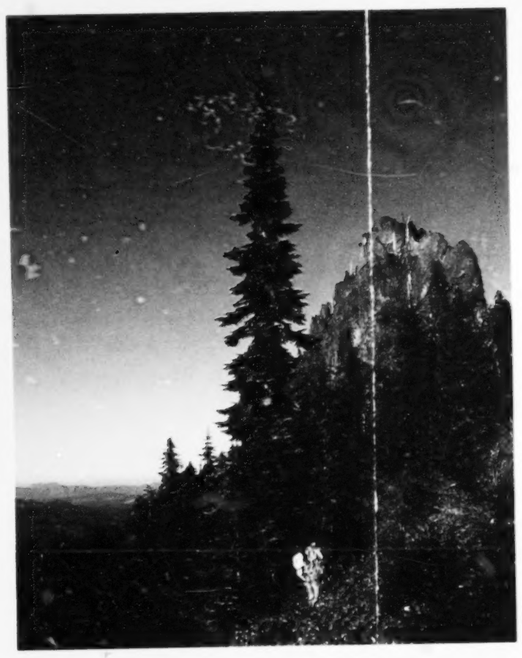
Blacktailed Deer - one of 300 species of animals that makes its home on the Willamette National Forest.

Experience the WILLAMETTE NATIONAL FOREST

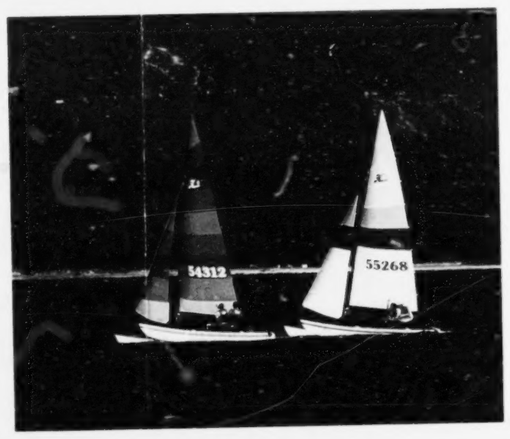


McKenzie River - one of two Wild & Scenic Rivers on the Willamette National Forest.

Lava River Trail - winds through fields of lava at the summit of the Old McKenzie Hwy. 242, a National Scenic Byway.



Tidbits Mountain Trail - leads to the top of this 5,185-foot (1,219 meters) peak and is recommended for experienced hikers and climbers only.



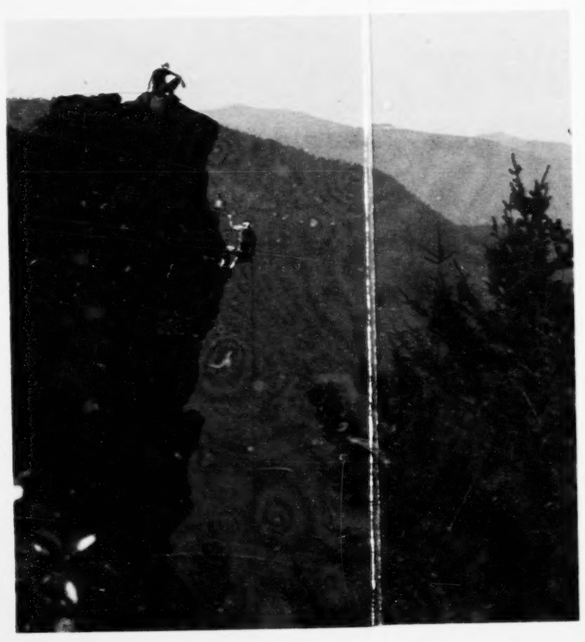
Waldo Lake - one of the purest lakes in the world, located 20 miles (32 km) east of Oakridge off State Hwy. 58.

Cross-Country Skiing - at Santiam and Willamette Pass areas and on forest roads and trails.

Rhododendrons - one of 600 different plant species on the Willamette National Forest.

Mt. Jefferson - at 10,495 feet (3,200 m), Mt. Jefferson is the highest point on the Willamette National Forest.

Johnny Creek Nature Trail - a 0.7-mile (1.13 km) interpretive trail designed for the differently abled and easily accessed off Road 1821 (Lowell District).



Menagerie Wilderness - one of eight Wilderness areas on the Willamette National Forest. (Photo by Roger & Donna Aitkenhead)

Pacific Crest Trail - winds its way along the backbone of the Cascades through 100 miles (161 km) of predominately Wilderness area on the Willamette National Forest.

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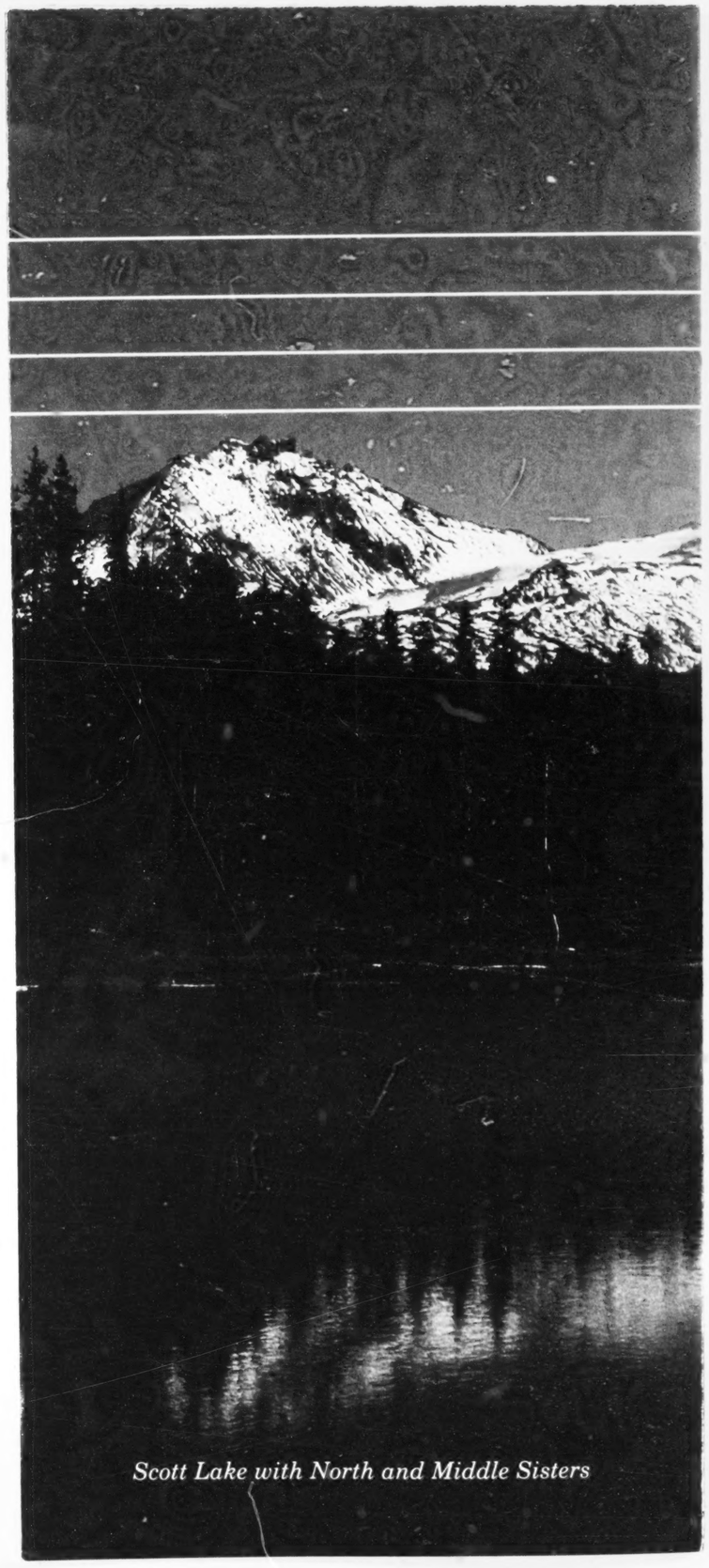
Distance from Eugene to Points of Interest

Location (Oregon unless otherwise indicated)	Miles	Kilometers
Ashland	178	286
Astoria	196	315
Bandon	140	225
Bend	116	187
Corvallis	39	63
Crater Lake	143	230
Diamond Lake	135	217
Florence	58	93
Grants Pass	139	224
Klamath Falls	173	278
Las Vegas, Nevada	906	1458
Los Angeles, California	884	1422
Medford	169	272
Newport	95	153
Oregon Caves	188	302
Pendleton	319	513
Portland	110	177
Reno, Nevada	456	734
San Diego, California	1031	1659
San Francisco, California	559	899
Seattle, Washington	283	455
Vancouver, British Columbia	431	693
Victoria, British Columbia	366	589
Yellowstone Park, Wyoming	885	1424



Scott Lake with North and Middle Sisters